

LAMBDA VALLEY

January 1987

MONTHLY

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Scondras Addresses Lambda Banquet

by R. HENRY

The night that a young politician named David Scondras won election to Boston City Council, he stood before his supporters and the TV cameras like victorious candidates are supposed to and thanked everyone who had labored for his campaign, especially his lover, Robert.

Then, he leaned over and kissed him.

Then, he looked squarely at the cameras and the undoubtedly raised eyebrows all over Boston and announced with a smile, "You'd better get used to it."

The anecdote was one of many that Scondras shared during his keynote speech at the Lambda Center's second annual banquet in November at the newly renovated Hotel Easton.

Scondras certainly shocked thousands when he showed open affection for his beloved on election night. But he also undoubtedly won gratitude from gay people everywhere when he dared to be himself.

And that was the essence of the message Scondras delivered at the Hotel Easton when he said that gay men and lesbian women have a responsibility to come out of the closet and get involved in their communities as gay people.

Scondras's electric speech followed a cocktail reception and candlelight dinner in the hotel's ballroom that was attended by more than 100 people.

If Scondras's "call to action" gave people something to think about for the future, other parts of the program gave everyone reason to pause and think about achievements of the past.

The Lambda Center's first annual awards presentation recognized several individuals and organizations whose efforts through the years have helped build a gay community in the Lehigh Valley.

The award for Humanitarian Service was presented to Valley Wide Help, which, since its founding nine years ago by the local chapter of the American Red Cross, has been a sympathetic friend of the gay community.

Its hotline served as a hotline for the gay community long before Lambda Center established its own, and it continues today to work closely with the gay community in its various programs.

It helped the Lambda Center set up its own hotline, organized training sessions for its volunteers and provides round-the-clock answering services for the center during hours when its own telephones are not staffed.

The award was accepted by Rose Craig, the director of Valley Wide Help and a member of the Lambda Center Board of Directors.

The Lifetime Achievement Award was presented to Ron Seeds, one of the elder statesmen of the Lehigh Valley's gay community.

Seeds was active in gay issues even before the Stonewall Riot in Greenwich Village in 1969 inspired gay men and lesbians to coalesce into a formal movement. He organized Le-Hi-Ho the same year, served as its director for many years, edited its newsletter, assembled its library and operated the first Gay Hotline in the Lehigh Valley out of his home.

continued on page 3

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BANQUET

continued from page 1

During the early 1970s, he lobbied on behalf of gay rights in Harrisburg and started an educational outreach program to college and church groups after which today's Lambda Center Speakers Bureau is modeled.

The Community Service Award was presented to Don Graves, whose enterprise has benefited a variety of gay organizations in many ways.

A long-time member of Le-Hi-Ho, he revamped its old newsletter, made it self-supporting through the sale of advertising and laid the ground work for it to become Lambda Valley Monthly.

He was one of the first spokespersons for the gay community, particularly during the critical period when the Lambda Center was in its organizing phase. He helped organize its hotline,

and he took the gay community beyond itself a few years ago when gay and lesbian volunteers from Le-Hi-Ho hosted a Christmas Party for street people at Allentown's Daybreak drop-in center.

Special surprise awards were also presented to Paul Kendall, president of the Lambda Center, and to Kate Kraft, former director of Women Incorporated and a member of the center's board, who is "retiring" from her local involvements for a few years as she advances her education in graduate school.

The AIDS Services committee of the Lambda Center also presented awards to the Stonewall and to Candida's for their help in organizing last fall's vastly successful Bar Olympics fund-raising event and to the Silhouette Lounge for its financial and personal support in the fight against AIDS. □

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Center Gets Ready to Hire Director

by HUNTLEY HAVERSTOCK

With the jingles of Santa's sleigh bells ringing just around the corner, the Lambda Center's Board of Directors held its last meeting of 1986 on December 9th.

The big push is on for the hiring of an executive director. The chief head hunter — the chairperson of the resume review committee — reported that 12 letters of interest had come in so far. The next part of the process will be to acknowledge each, let them know salary limitations and the proposed job description, and set up possible interview dates.

So far, most of the responses have come from outside the Lehigh Valley. The board had hoped for greater input from our own community. But it still holds out hope that more may be received before the arrival of 1987.

The nominating committee for new board members also had some good news to report. It will have a full slate of new candidates ready for the Lambda Center's annual board meeting on January 23. It will give the board its first full complement of 17 members in quite a while.

The AIDS Service Center reported that progress had been made on forming its third buddy team. The link will be formed with Monroe County's Pocono Hospital.

Board member Ed Verba talked about the annual dinner held this year at the Hotel Easton.

The November 21st event netted \$400 for the Center's treasury. Although pleased with the income, which was larger than the amount raised last year, the board was disappointed at the slightly smaller turnout.

There was also some discussion about the lack of press coverage that the event received. In 1985, when the forces of the religious right were outside picketing, the event was covered. Some board members suggested that the absence of pickets in 1986 may have explained the absence of reporters. Others expressed the hope that the failure to make headlines was more a matter of acceptance than a lack of concern.

The board also took the opportunity to take care of some general housekeeping duties. It was decided that the creation of an internal newsletter between board members and the larger social service community is needed. Plans for the newsletter were outlined in detail.

From the Circumstances-Beyond-Our-Control Department: In a slight change of plans, the Lambda Center's board has decided to change the date for the annual meeting. Instead of Friday, January 30, as was reported in this space last month, the new date will be Friday, January 23.

In the meantime, we at Lambda Center offer you our best wishes for the new year.

LAMBDA VALLEY MONTHLY

LAMBDA VALLEY MONTHLY

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Responding

by BOB SWEENEY

Now that we are embarking on a new year, and an uncertain journey lies before us, let's briefly look back on the past year for a moment, a year of social and political change.

1986 gave us new hope in our battle against AIDS, in the drugs being offered — the push for more funding for research and care for PWA's, education about the disease that is no longer being labeled a "gay disease," and grass-root fund-raising efforts across the country.

Educating the public is a monumental task indeed, but not an impossible one. The first challenge is to destroy the stigma surrounding the disease by understanding it. Then comes prevention through safe sex and clean needles. By changing behavior, AIDS can be prevented.

1986 has been a politically scary year, with the likes of Lyndon LaRouche, Jerry Falwell, William Rehnquist and their gangs gaining momentum throughout the country.

Mr. LaRouche proposes to quarantine all persons testing positive to the HTLV-3 Test, which is not quite as accurate as the health department would like. How better to turn a national health crisis into political gain than by offering homosexuals as a scapegoat?

We all know about Mr. Falwell and his preachings on morality. How one person has the knowledge of what is good or bad for the population is totally miraculous!

Mr. Rehnquist, a Supreme Court Justice, would either have us all living on an island like lepers or totally annihilated. I somehow equate these gentlemen's ideals with fascism and Hitler's dream of a perfect race, I don't know why, but I do. The sad part is that there are people who believe in and follow these disillusioned gentlemen.

1986 has been politically educational, with the realization that if all gay people would band together, we would have one of the biggest voting blocks — equal to that of the women's vote! So it is vital for us to go out and vote for those who are going to be most sympathetic to our causes, i.e. more funding for AIDS research and protection of

our basic civil rights. It is also important that this band of homophobes do not gain any more power. Without sounding like an alarmist, I for one do not want to be restricted due to my lifestyle.

We also saw a rise in censorship in this free and democratic nation, starting in our nation's bible belt with a group of fundamentalists/fanatics who feel that fantasy and fairy tales are works of the devil. They want to decide what should and should not be read in the public school system, which has given rise to Mr. Meese and his committee of megalomaniacs, who would like to tell the adults of this nation what is proper to read and view. I am starting to think that George Orwell was off by a few years. I hope I am wrong.

Though violence against homosexuals has always been a problem, the past year has shown us it is no longer in fashion to beat up on fags, queers and homos, if you will. A judge in New Jersey has meted out punishment to the fullest extent of the law to two men, who were out drinking one evening and later for fun decided to jump an easy target, a gay male. Both men were sentenced to 12 years in prison with no parole restrictions. Many judges across the land are taking similar stands against punks whose ideas of a good time are at the very least bizarre.

Also on a more positive note, I have seen lately a change in the overall gay community. It is becoming more organized and united, I see this nationally and locally. After all, isn't there more to life than who is sleeping with whom or wearing your tightest and newest jeans to the disco?

1986 was not all that bleak, but it was a strategic year, politically and socially. A pendulum year, if you will. Now it is our choice as to how the pendulum swings, with or against us. We can either sit back and let this mood sweep over us and lose everything we have gained as a people, or we can stand up and make a difference for what we believe in and what took us so long to achieve. Don't be an ostrich with your head in the sand. Become involved and make that difference!

LEHIGH VALLEY LESBIAN AND GAY COMMUNITY CENTER- CALENDAR JANUARY-FEBRUARY 1987

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25	26	27	28	29	30	31

FEBRUARY

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14

Ongoing "GOINGS ON"

Sundays(1/11,18,25;2/1,8)	Metropoitan Community Church	7:30p.m.
Mondays(1/12,19,26;2/2,9)	Alcoholics Anonymous	12 noon
Fridays(1/16,23,30;2/6,13)	Al-Anon	7p.m.-8p.m.

Calendar of Events

Sunday	1/11	CPR Class (Red Cross/ASC Joint Event)	10:00 a.m.
Tuesday	1/13	Lambda Center Board of Directors	7:30 p.m.
Friday	1/16	Video Night	8:30 p.m.
Sunday	1/18	Hotline Business Meeting	4:00 p.m.
Monday	1/19	Womyn's Night	7:30 p.m.
Monday	1/19	Finance Committee meeting	7:30 p.m.
Monday	1/19	MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. DAY	
Tuesday	1/20	Center Development and Communications Committee mtg.	7:30 p.m.
Friday	1/23	*** ANNUAL LAMBDA CENTER MEMBERSHIP MEETING ***	7:30 p.m.
Monday	1/26	Services Committee meeting	7:30 p.m.
Tuesday	1/27	Program and Fundraising Committee meeting	7:30 p.m.
Friday	1/ 30	Coffee House Night	8:30 p.m.
Monday	2/2	Womyn's Night	7:30 p.m.
Tuesday	2/3	Executive Committee meeting	7:30 p.m.
Sunday	2/8	Hotline Business meeting	4:00 p.m.
Tuesday	2/10	Lambda Center Board of Directors	7:30 p.m.
Friday	2/13	*** SECOND ANNUAL VALENTINE'S PARTY & RAFFLE ***	8:30 p.m.

LAMBDA CENTER - P.O. Box 1656, Allentown, PA 18105-1656

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☐ 2nd Annual Valentine's Party @ \$3.00/members-\$4.00/friends

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Thank you for your continued support of the Lamda Center

LEHIGH VALLEY LESBIAN AND GAY COMMUNITY CENTER- CALENDAR JANUARY-FEBRUARY 1987

Lambda Center- Everyone at the Lambda Center wants to wish you a very Happy and prosperous New Year. During 1987 we hope that anyone who has never taken the opportunity to come to the Lambda Center will add that to the list of resolution. See you there.

For about a year Al-Anon has been meeting at the Lambda Center on Fridays from 7-8 p.m. The group has and continues to meet the needs of a very special group of people.

Adding to the services provided for the Alcoholic and anyone who has been touched by alcoholism either directly or indirectly is another group: Alcoholics Anonymous(A.A.). The group has been meeting at the Lambda Center for about a month on Mondays at noon.

Anyone who feels that either group could be of help to them should plan to attend. Now there is one in the evening and one during the day to provide for any schedule.

SOCIAL EVENTS (4 of them this time)
*anyone who is most interested in the social events at the Center need read no further. 1.Video Night-the monthly event is quite successful. Beginning at 8:30, this night ususally runs 'til about midnight. 2.MEMBERS ONLY-One of the best parties is the one that follows the Annual Meeting. It is the one event we can pamper ourselves for a job 'well done'. The date in 1987 is January 23rd. 3.Coffee House Night-New to the calendar in '87 this event will be anything we want it to be. It will have music, food, and hopefully will appear on the calendar more than once a month. It answers the question;"What is there to do in the Lehigh Valey on the nights I don't want to go to the bars?" 4.2nd Annual Valentine's Party- Anyone who **braved** the snows last year knows we had a good time. Also we will be raffleing off the "Breakfast in Bed" again. Not to mention the candy, roses and champagne. ♥*

Since early December two important events have been happening. First, the HOTLINE is finally operating 24 hrs./day. Now anytime you want or need to use it the availability is there. L.V. is the only area in Pa. operating a 24 hr. HOTLINE. Also the Lambda Center now has office hours. We are open every Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. for the convenience of anyone who wants to be in the Center during the day. This allows also that the office phone is staffed during the same hours, no more having to deal with the answering machine if you don't want to.

AIDS SERVICES CENTER-

The AIDS Services Center (ASC) is not usually listed in the calendar of events because those who use the services are of a select group and wish to meet with some discretion. Just because it is not listed does not mean that it is not operating. ASC continues to be one of the most needed and successful service programs at the Lambda Center. Currently it is the second largest community based group working for AIDS in Pa. ASC services all of Lehigh Northampton, Monroe, and Warren (NJ) counties, as well as upper Bucks and Eastern Berks.

ASC provides a "Buddy" system, support groups, legal and political advocacy, and any other non-medical service that it can to People With AIDS, family and friends of PWA's, and general education to anyone who desires it.

ASC is in constant need of volunteers.... You don't have to be a "Buddy" as the only way you can help, we need people who can answer phones, help with developing community resources, raise money, or a hundred other things. If you can give us any time it would be deeply appreciated and anyone who has done can attest to the fact that you will leave feeling really good about yourself.

Also anyone who knows anyone who nees the service of ASC please get in contact with us through the HOTLINE (433-5444) or by mail through the Lambda Center P.O.Box.

I'm Not One to Gossip, But...

by MYRNA LOUISE

Hello and season's greetings to all! Being how this is my first column, let me introduce myself. My name is Myrna Louise. If you don't know me, you will, like it or not.

I've been around a "few" years and occasionally entertain the troops — no dear, I don't mean the ones at 10th and Linden either! On occasion you can catch my act at The Stonewall, whenever they are in desperate need of a fun kind of girl! ! ! Enough of my bio!

Let's start.

I'm not one to gossip, but...

Don't you think it was rather rude for our own beloved Bobby Sweeney to carry on screaming, "it's not true, it's not true!" after watering down a certain contestant in a certain contest at a known disco?

I must thank Dina for the "Christmas Present" at the show. It's amazing how excited she gets. Dina dear, if you're into 5 o'clock shadows, just tell me, love. Hmm, and all the girls from Rosemary's tell me I look like Nell!

Before I leave this issue, I must mention a friend of mine named Kitty. No last names please, I don't want to be obvious. (She lives with Crystal).

I'm not one to gossip, but...

If you haven't caught her "Itsey-bitsey" act yet, you truly haven't experienced life!

Here is a woman who walks into the petite department just to watch the clerks sweat!

Kitty, darling, on a crowded night, with what you chug down, I'm surprised the pool table doesn't have a built-in pillow!

I'd like to take the opportunity to say happy 30th to Danny! You were just truly exciting at 29. I can't wait to see what 30 brings!

I just took a little break, and while I was finishing off my FDS, I was thinking, boy, it seems the selection in this town gets worse and worse — actually I should say Lehigh Valley. God forbid I leave out any of the bars! This should be fun. Now we get to find out who the insecure ones really are! Believe it or not, folks, I can remember when I was one of the youngest patrons around. I'll never forget Prohibition. How about it, Denny? But now! These kids wear more jewelry, make-up and mousse than Myrna!

In closing, I'd like to thank those that I have mentioned in this column. I only write about those that I love and respect and those that can take it in the good fun it was meant to be.

If any of you darlings out there have any good dirt for Myrna, mail it to:

Myrna Louise
c/o *Lambda Valley Monthly*

P.O. Box 1633

Allentown, PA 18105

Discretion and anonymity assured. ☒

Letters to the Editor

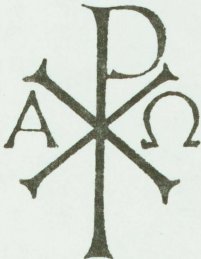
If you have any legitimate gripes about *Lambda Valley Monthly*, regarding articles or representation, Lambda Center, the bars or anything affecting the gay community, write a letter to the editor of *Lambda Valley Monthly*. If you want to get involved and don't know how or where, write a letter!

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In Depth With David Scondras

by BOB SWEENEY

As I was waiting with my good friends Brian and Nan for Mr. Scondras's plane to land, I didn't know what or who to expect, and I was getting quite nervous. By the time Brian had introduced me to Mr. Scondras and his lover of the last 8 1/2 years, Rob, I was real nervous, never having interviewed before. But in the car on the way to the hotel, interviewing David came easy. He put me at ease with his charm and eagerness to answer my questions, along with a few interjections from Brian.

Mr. David Scondras, at first glance, is a lanky, 30ish, up-and-coming yuppie lawyer, with a neatly trimmed beard and dark preppie style hair with specs that give an air of being the only intellectual. But in reality Mr. Scondras is a down to earth Boston City Councilman on the Democratic ticket that happens to be gay.

A thoughtful, outspoken man, David has twice been voted into city council and is presently sitting on a housing committee. He hopes to run for mayor of Boston in 1991 as an independent. His political aspirations stop on the local level, where he feels he will be most effective.

David, a self-proclaimed freedom fighter, enjoys playing piano, talking politics or writing movie reviews for the local newspaper during his scant free time. The former professor of economics and math, shares a row house in the Fenway section with his lover, Rob, a charming architect, who works in David's office in his free time, Rob is the man behind the man if you will. The other roommate is Nixon, their cat.

Being openly gay, David doesn't find his lifestyle a hindrance at all: "Some people like it, others don't. This way everything is out in the open. People can't pretend I'm a bachelor." The only drawback the couple finds is the loss of privacy and the feeling of being public property that is

common to all who live the political life.

Scondras says he votes as he feels is just and doesn't feel pressure from gay groups because he is gay. He is fair on issues, whether gay or straight, and this has earned him the respect and good rapport with the other members of city council and the community at large, who look at David the man, not David the homosexual.

When asked about the AIDS situation in Boston, David said the government could and should do more in the areas of education and funding. In his words, "AIDS should be treated as an act of war. Drop everything till a cure is found, as we did with NASA, when we wanted to excel in space." In Boston, the gay community is handling the crisis through fund-raising, education, and changing behavior. Scondras feels we should confront the government now: the longer we wait, the bigger the fight. From David, I gathered that the Boston gay community is very organized and politically viable.

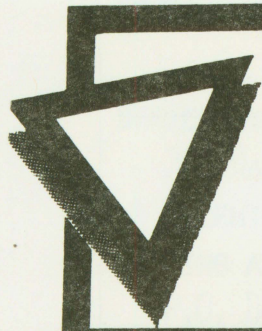
When asked about his feelings on Lyndon LaRouche and Proposition 64, David responded, "He is a dangerous and insane man, who reflects a psychotic thinker, similar to Hitler in *Mein Kampf*, who needs scapegoats for problems."

David resembles a renaissance man in his thinking. He doesn't believe in people telling other what values are good or bad, what god to believe in, or what religion to follow. He feels that everyone has the right to be different and to disagree.

If he can be remembered for one thing, Scondras said he would want it to be for fighting for the little guy to get a chance at the brass ring as people on a bigger scale do.

I agree with Rob that David is a role model for young gays, someone to be proud of.

It was a pleasure meeting you, Mr. Scondras, a meeting I won't soon forget. □



GIOVANNI'S ROOM

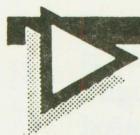
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FALL/WINTER 1986



FICTION & POETRY

BELINDA by Anne Rice writing as Anne Rampling (Arbor House), 10/86, 352 pp., \$17.95 cl. An erotic new novel; the story of a young runaway, Belinda, and her secret world that includes a legendary film star, a young lesbian film director, a seductive hair stylist and a famous illustrator of children's books whom she seduces. A spellbinding novel of seduction and forbidden love.

EXIT TO EDEN, by Anne Rampling (Dell), 1985, 308 pp., \$3.95 pb. Written pseudonymously by Anne Rice (*The Vampire Lestat*, *Cry to Heaven*), this novel centers on a Caribbean "club" where people go to have "the sexual vacation of their dreams." This is extremely well-written heterosexual erotica where Lisa, the administrator of the club, dominates.

CHARLEYHORSE, by Cecil Dawkins (Viking/Penguin), due 10/86, 288 pp., \$6.95 pb. A lesbian novel set on a ranch in Kansas. Billie and her daughter, Charley, vie for attention and love. When Juna, the new second-grade teacher arrives as a boarder in their home, an alliance between Charley and Juna is formed that enlivens Charley's world.

THE FEMALE MAN, by Joanna Russ (Beacon), 1986 (1975), 224 pp., \$7.95 pb. Finally back in print! This is one of the most important works of feminist science fiction ever written. It provides a witty and subversive analysis of the power men hold over women in our society.

THE JOURNEY, by Ann Cameron (Spinsters/Aunt Lute), due 8/86, 314 pp., \$7.95 pb. A reprint of a wonderful novel; it follows two women Anne and Sarah as they cross the Canadian wilderness in the late 1800's. A fast-paced story of their love for each other and their adventures as they struggle to survive.

LESBIAN LETTERS, by Christine Heron Stockton (Heron Press), 1986, 137 pp., \$8.95 pb. Written in the form of fictional letters to parents, friends, lovers, clergy, etc., this book opens up a wide range of feelings, thoughts, and issues that confront us.

HOME IN YOUR HANDS, by Lee Lynch (Naiad), due fall/86, \$7.95 pb. New short stories by the author of *The Swashbuckler* (\$7.95 pb.) and *Toothpick House* (\$7.95 pb.). Many of these stories follow up on the lives of characters in these books. She gives us images of dyke sobriety in and out of bars.

LIVING AS A LESBIAN: POETRY, by Cheryl Clarke (Firebrand), 1986, 94 pp., \$6.95 pb. Clarke writes variations on the themes of blackness, anger, violence, loss, loneliness, lesbianism, and sex. The images are strong, stunning and hot.

SOMETHING SHADY, by Sarah Dreher (New Victoria), 1986, 263 pp., \$8.95 pb. Stoner Metavish, masquerading as a mental patient, encounters mystery, terror and some quirky characters in a suspicious "rest home" on the rocky coast of Maine. Follow the continued adventures of Stoner, her devoted lover, Gwen, and the rest of the cast!

THE SHELF, by Kay Dick (GMP), 1986, 109 pp., \$6.50 pb. "The shelf" is a repository in the coroner's office where Cassandra's letters to Anne had first been lodged. It was all so long ago - but Cass has been unable to forget the passion Anne had roused in her, their brief affair and the mystery that ended it. A powerful, well-written novel.

OUR DEAD BEHIND US: Poems, by Audre Lorde (Norton), 1986, 75 pp., \$6.95 pb. An extraordinary new collection of poems that explore "differences as creative tensions..." to motivate the past, present and future towards activism.



NON-FICTION

DYKES TO WATCH OUT FOR: Cartoons, by Alison Bechdel, (Firebrand), Fall 1986, 80 pp., \$6.95 pb. These now famous cartoons about modern lesbian life nudge you from smile through giggle, to raucous guffaw.

PLEASURES OF LOVING: THE EROTIC FANTASIES AND EXPERIENCES OF 52 FRENCH WOMEN, ed. by Francoise Ducout, trans. from French by Nicholas Courtin (St. Martins), 1986, 192pp., \$13.95 pb. Taken mostly from "Elle", a popular French women's magazine, these are heterosexual fantasies.

RED BEANS AND RICE: RECIPES FOR LESBIAN HEALTH & WISDOM, by Bode Noonan (Crossing), 1986, 67 pp., \$5.95 pb. Using food as a metaphor for assorted thoughts on love, dependency, mothers and daughters, and life in general. Noonan creates a very funny treatise of lesbian thought.

LESBIAN ORIGINS, BY Susan Cavin (ISM), 1985, 288pp., \$9.00pb. Originally the author's doctoral dissertation, this is an important new work that challenges the patriarchal organization of society and posits that lesbianism is the basis of culture. Should be on your "essential reading" list.

INCIDENTS INVOLVING WARMTH: A Collection of Lesbian Feminist Love Stories, by Anna Livia (Only Women), 1986, 172 pp., \$7.95 pb. A witty, gritty collection of stories by the author of *Relatively Normal* (\$7.95 pb.). Livia's characters vary from a devious 80-year-old, to a gorgeously dangerous dyke with tacky musical tastes, to a lonely eleven-year-old.

THE SHARPEST EDGE, by S.M. Stirling and Shirley Meier (Signet), 1986, 255 pp., \$2.95 pb. New sci-fi set in the distant future after the great holocaust; ShKaira and her dagger-wielding companion Megan, consummate thief and mistress of the arts of illusion, find themselves cast into a life and death struggle over a precarious balance of power in their dominion. Some explicit sex and high adventure.

LOVE, DEATH, AND THE CHANGING OF THE SEASONS, by Marilyn Hacker (Arbor House), 10/86, 160 pp., \$7.95 pb. A passionately, intense story of a love affair between two women, from the erotic electricity of their first acquaintance to the tough-minded tranquility of their breakup. This is a novel in sonnets; colorful, sexy and graphically detailed.

LESBIAN ETIQUETTE: Humorous Essays, by Gail Sausser (Crossing), 1986, 95pp., \$6.95pb. A delightful collection about everything from her fantasies as a "baby dyke", "De-Dyking the Apartment", "Ways to Dump Your Lover", "Seduction in Perspective", and more!

NAMING THE VIOLENCE: SPEAKING OUT ABOUT LESBIAN BATTERING ed. by Kerry Lobel (Seal), 1986, \$10.95pb. This book is by and for battered lesbians and those who work to support their empowerment. Lobel alternates personal histories with commentary by counselors, activists, and others.

SEX, POWER AND PLEASURE, by Mariana Valverde (The Women's Press), 1985, 212pp., \$8.95 pb. Exploding many traditional notions of sexuality, this book investigates the sexual lives of women today, and unravels the stormy debates around the issues of pornography, censorship, eroticism and power.



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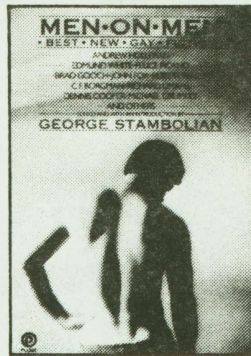
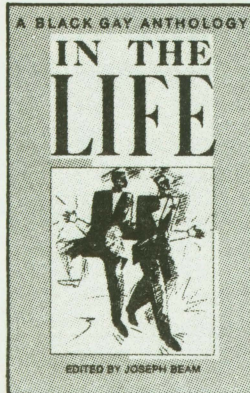
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SEASON'S READINGS— NEW BOOKS FROM GIOVANNI'S ROOM



THE PINK TRIANGLE: The Nazi War Against Homosexuals, by Richard Plant, 288 pp., New Republic Books, \$19.95 cloth. By far the most comprehensive, most interesting and most affecting account in English of this strange and horrible period in gay history. The author is a gay German Jew who escaped the Nazis in 1938 and has been working on this book for many years.

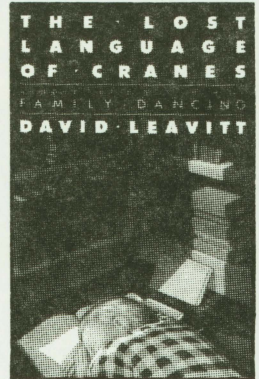
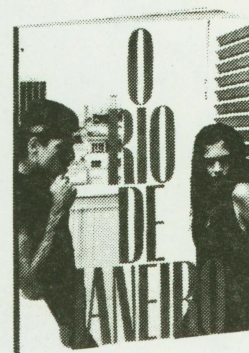
IN THE LIFE: A Black Gay Anthology, edited by Joseph Beam, Alyson Publications, \$7.95 pb. Fiction, drama, essays, interviews, poetry, and art by, for and about Black gay men. Contributors include Samuel R. Delaney, James S. Tinney, Billy S. Jones, Sidney Brinkley, Blackberri, Essex Hemphill, and many more.



MEN ON MEN: Best New Gay Fiction, edited by George Stambolian, Plume Books, 384 pp., \$8.95 paperback. Stories by such established authors as Edmund White, Andrew Holleran, Ethan Mordden, Robert Ferro, and Richard Hall, as well as work by bright, young authors such as Brad Gooch and John Fox. A realistic portrait of modern gay sensibilities.

Two new fiction reprints from the same publisher: *Dancer from the Dance*, by Andrew Holleran, \$6.95 pb., and *Cold Hands*, by Joseph Pintauro, \$7.95 pb.

O RIO DE JANEIRO, by Bruce Weber, Alfred A. Knopf, 204 pp., \$60.00 paperback. This year's hottest photography book, featuring the young men of the Far South, by one of the most influential photographers working today. Oversized book (11" x 14½") of 221 photographs in six colors and in black and white.



THE LOST LANGUAGE OF CRANES, by David Leavitt, Alfred A. Knopf, 319 pp., \$17.95 cloth. An extraordinary first novel by the young author of last year's hit short-story collection, *Family Dancing* (\$3.95). Once again Leavitt deals incisively and competently with a family's complex relationships; here the relationships are imperilled by long-kept secrets of both father and son.

FICTION

BUDDIES, by Ethan Mordden (St. Martin's), 304 pp., \$16.95 cloth. This fine novelist's newest book is a funny and telling autobiographical story about having friends — gay and straight.

ONE LAST WALTZ, by Ethan Mordden (St. Martin's), 196 pp., \$13.95 cloth. Of the three sons—a builder, a fighter, and a dreamer—the dreamer is gay. A lyrical and poignantly funny story about the family ties that bind.

STEPS GOING DOWN, by Joseph Hansen (Penguin),

307 pp., \$3.50 pb. Paperback edition of Hansen's new whodunnit, which resounds with his unique voice but is not a Brandstetter mystery.

JOSEPH AND THE OLD MAN, by Christopher Davis (St. Martin's), 195 pp., \$13.95 cloth. A sweetly sentimental intergenerational love story that deals with the struggle to survive a tragic loss.

THE RAGAZZI, by Pier Paolo Passolini (Carcantet), 256 pp., \$8.50 pb. The story of a street boy trying to survive in the inhuman poverty of post-war Rome.

GAY COMIX #7, ed. by Robert Triptow (Gay Comix), n.p., \$2.00 stapled. More shenanigans from the

creative pens of Tim Barela, Donelan, and others.

CANARY, by Nathan Aldyne (Ballantine), \$2.95 pb. The fourth novel in the Valentine-Lovelace mystery series.

NON-FICTION

THE SPIRIT AND THE FLESH: Sexual Diversity in American Indian Culture, by Walter L. Williams (Beacon), 312 pp., \$21.95 cloth. Reviewed in this issue.

CITIES ON A HILL: A Journey Through Contemporary American Cultures, by Frances FitzGerald (Simon & Schuster), 414 pp., \$19.95 cloth. Reviewed in this issue.

THE BLACK BOOK, by Robert Mapplethorpe, foreword by Ntozake Shange (St. Martin's), 128 pp., \$40.00 pb. A photographic study of Black male nudes/ by one of the best contemporary photographers.

GAY PRIEST: An Inner Journey, by Malcolm Boyd (St. Martin's), 163 pp., \$14.95 cloth. Reviewed in this issue.

HOT STUDS: Homosexual Encounters from First Hand, Vol. 3, ed. by Winsor Leyland (Gay Sunshine), 190 pp., \$10.95 pb. Sex stories.

ANAL PLEASURE AND HEALTH: A Guide for Men and Women, 2nd ed., by Jack Morin (Yes Press), 269 pp., \$9.50 pb. This new edition includes current guidelines for AIDS risk reduction, making this valuable and enjoyable book even more so.

AL'S 1986 Male Video Guide (Midway), 1986, 282 pp., \$12.95 pb. The best on the subject/of gay porn films.

THE GAY ENGAGEMENT CALENDAR 1987, compiled by Martin Greif (Main Street Press), \$7.95 spiral-bound. The trivia and pictures from this series make gay culture move significant — and more fun — every year.

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Lifestyles...

Monogamy

by GREG NEW HOLLAND

One word caused most of the reaction to last month's column — monogamy. Based on the feedback I received, it seems safe to say that most gay males are not willing to consent to monogamy. It seems to me that when we find someone who makes us very happy, we tend to think there is someone better.

The reaction I heard from people really opened my eyes as to why so many gay males suffer from AIDS. It scares me to think that even a deadly disease can't get people to control their

promiscuity or to practice safe sex to cut down the risk to them and their partners. I found when suggesting this opinion to people, that very few agreed, in fact, some became defensive, commenting that safe sex is the alternative to being monogamous. Safe sex is one of the answers to controlling AIDS, but it is not the answer to monogamy. So we are back to the word monogamy.

What makes it so hard for most gay men to remain monogamous and to stick to a commitment? ☒



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**Monday-Saturday
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Poetry

by GREG NEW HOLLAND

Feeling of a Friend

I'll miss your love,
it's special to me;
So warm and so true,
like no other I see;
Just to see your face
brings a warm feeling inside;
A feeling from a friend,
a feeling I'd never hide;
So when you're gone,
or just on your way;
I'll be thinking about you,
maybe not every day;
But always at the times,
when I'm feeling happy or blue;
Will I think of the special love,
I feel when I think of you.

Dear Briana...

by *BRIANA*

Who loves ya baby!

In response to a letter "Always Blue Around the Holidays," I felt a need to look at the different ways to share love during the holiday season. Some of us go "home" to our traditional family as expected, even though it is just for appearance, while others go "home" completely accepted of their lifestyle and accompanied by their lover. This is ideal but seldom practical. There is a growing sense of self-worth and many gays and lesbians are sharing two Christmases — one with the traditional family setting, the other with their "gay" family.

For those who are blue around the holidays, you might try some of these ideas rather than being alone: venturing to your local gay community center, the Lambda Center at 742 Hamilton Mall, Allentown, 433-7377, where there are numerous social activities, attending Sunday service at the Metropolitan Community Church, also at the Lambda Center. Also, many of the bars have monthly happenings, so check out the Resource Section in this newspaper.

Remember, we truly are not alone and we must make the effort to share our love during the holiday season and year round!

Briana's New Year Resolutions...

Although many resolutions are forgotten one week into the new year, it's still noteworthy to reflect on some of the resolutions being made within our community:

1. Getting involved in the different AIDS projects and groups in our community.
2. Getting our minds as well as our bodies into tip-top shape.
3. Practicing safe sex!
4. Petitioning local gay bars to install condom machines in their bathrooms.
5. Stopping smoking longer than one day.
6. Getting back on that diet so we can get back into our 501's.
7. Buying those size 13 triple E pumps while they are on sale at Ethel's Attic at 8th and Linden Streets, Allentown.
8. Producing a duet for Pauline and Miss Kitty at Candida's for Saturday matinees.

Here's hoping for a Fabulous New Year for all!

Remember, we are everywhere. ☐

Lunch, Brunch, and Dinner Too...

by *DANE MORGAN EDWARDS*

Having revealed in this column that we've become completely and irrevocably part of the Brunching Bunch, some friends gathered us up one Sunday morning recently and took us to the George Washington Motor Lodge at MacArthur Road and Route 22 in Whitehall, assuring us that superlatives would fail us when the time came to describe our experience in print. We love a challenge.

A quick sampling of the breakfast board revealed omelettes made to order, french toast, waffles, blueberry and cheese blintzes, muffins and croissants, and apple fritters.

The luncheon board contained shrimp, glazed pork chops, a variety of seafoods prepared in a

cream sauce and, what immediately became our favorite, a delightful roast chicken dish in champagne sauce.

But it was the dessert table that did us in. Our supply of superlatives was severely tested as we gazed at the 18-foot table groaning with chocolate cheese cake, chocolate truffles, French Chambord cake, chocolate mousse pie and a peanut butter chocolate chip cake. This is just a small sampling of its wonders. There is much, much more, and you can see it all for yourself any Sunday from 10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. All this and champagne too, for \$12.95.

We'll see you there. ☐

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